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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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***Bryan County Director of Public Works Enters Guilty Plea and Sentenced
in Connection with Baiting Dove Hunt at
Industrial Development Site***

SAVANNAH: Paul B. Murphy, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Georgia, announced today that Derrell T. Newman, Director of Public Works for Bryan County and a Director of the Bryan County–Pembroke Development Authority, was sentenced on March 25, 2004, by United States Magistrate Judge James E. Graham. The defendant had previously entered a guilty plea to a Criminal Information charging him with a misdemeanor violation of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act for baiting an area with the intent to take protected mourning dove – a violation of Title 16, United States Code, Sections 704 and 707. The allegation in the Information and the evidence presented in court demonstrated that the defendant’s intention was to bait the site of the Bryan County Industrial Center over a period of months for a dove hunt and party at the site which was held on October 11, 2003, and called the “Bryan County Day Dove Hunt.” Evidence indicated that the party was being put on by the Bryan County–Pembroke Development Authority to celebrate the creation of the site and to encourage investors to utilize the site. Contributors to the creation of the site and other individuals selected by the Development Authority received invitations to the dove hunt, apparently without knowing that the site on which they were hunting had been illegally baited by Mr. Newman. Mr. Newman was sentenced by the Court to pay a fine of \$2,500.

Mr. Murphy stated that the guilty plea and sentence were the culmination of an investigation by Special Agent John E. Rawls of the Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Law Enforcement. Assistant United States Attorney William Frentzen represented the government in the case.

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04-04